In the claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-10 were previously canceled.

11. (Currently Amended) A computer system comprising:

      an asynchronous message and queue system;

      a storage area network controller in communication with said asynchronous message and queue system;

      said storage ~~are~~ <u>area</u> network controller having control means adapted to control a message queue on behalf of a queue manager; and

      said storage area network controller adapted to control a message selected from a group consisting of: <u>non-persistent</u> ~~transactional~~ and persistent.

12. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 11, wherein said <u>message</u> queue is adapted to support simultaneous access by a first queue manager and a second queue manager.

13. (Original) The system of claim 11, further comprising a connection handle adapted to be authorized by said controller and returned to a call request to connect an application with said queue manager.

14. (Original) The system of claim 13, further comprising a counter adapted to track a quantity of handles authorized for said queue.

15. (Original) The system of claim 13, further comprising an object handle adapted to be dispensed by said queue manager for use in performance of a service to an object.

16. (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein said object handle and said connection handle function as input parameters to a call request.

17. (Original) The system of claim 11, wherein said transactional message control is in the form of a syncpoint coordinator.

18. (Original) The system of claim 11, wherein said storage area network controller includes a lock manager adapted to preserve data integrity.

19. (Currently Amended)   A method for communicating in a computer system comprising:
    managing a queue in a storage area network of said computer system supporting an asynchronous messaging and queuing system;
    receiving a message request at a queue manager of said storage area network; and
    passing said received message request to a storage area network controller of said storage area network, wherein said controller includes means to control a message selected from a group consisting of: non-persistent ~~transactional~~ and persistent.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 19, further comprising supporting simultaneous access to said message queue by a first queue manager and a second queue manager.

21. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the step of managing a queue in a storage area network includes authorizing a connection handle to a call request from said queue manager.

22. (Original) The method of claim 21, further comprising tracking a quantity of authorized connection handles for said queue.

23. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein the step of managing a queue in a storage area network includes dispensing an object handle by said queue manager for performance of a service to an object.

24. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein said transaction message control means utilizes a syncpoint coordinator.

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25. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the step of managing a queue in a storage area network includes preserving data integrity.

26. (Currently Amended)   An article comprising:

a computer-readable signal-bearing medium;

means in the medium for managing a queue in a storage area network of an asynchronous messaging and queuing system;

means in the medium for receiving a message request at a queue manager of a storage area network; and

means in the medium for passing said message request to a storage area network controller of said storage area network, wherein said controller includes means for controlling a message selected from a group consisting of: non-persistent ~~transactional~~ and persistent.

27. (Original) The article of claim 26, further comprising means in the medium for supporting simultaneous access to said queue by a first queue manager and a second queue manager.

28. (Original) The article of claim 26, wherein said means for managing a queue in a storage area network includes means for authorizing a connection handle to a call request from said queue manager.

29. (Original) The article of claim 28, further comprising means in the medium for tracking a quantity of authorized connection handles for said queue.

30. (Original) The article of claim 28, wherein said means for managing a queue in a storage area network includes means for dispensing an object handle by one of said queue managers for performance of a service to an object.

31. (Original) The article of claim 26, wherein said transactional message control means includes a syncpoint coordinator.

32. (Original) The article of claim 26, wherein said means for managing a queue in a storage area network includes preserving data integrity.

33. (Currently Amended) An asynchronous message-and-queue system comprising:
a storage area network having a controller adapted to control a queue in said storage area network; and
said storage area network controller having means adapted to control a message selected from a group consisting of: non-persistent ~~transactional~~ and persistent.

34. (Original) The system of claim 33, wherein said transactional message control means includes a syncpoint coordinator.

35. (Original) The system of claim 33, wherein said controller includes a lock manager adapted to preserve data integrity.

36. (Original) The system of claim 33, wherein controller includes a first queue manager and a second queue manager to manage said queue, and wherein said queue managers are heterogenous.

37. (Currently Amended) A method for messaging comprising:
managing a queue in a controller of a storage area network of an asynchronous messaging and queuing system; and
controlling a message in said queue, wherein said message is selected from a group consisting of: non-persistent ~~transactional~~ and persistent.

38. (Original) The method of claim 37, wherein the step of controlling a transactional message includes a syncpoint coordinator.

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39. (Original) The method of claim 37, wherein the step of managing a queue in a storage area network includes tracking a quantity of connection handles authorized for said queue.

40. (Currently Amended) An article comprising:

a computer-readable signal-bearing medium;

means in the medium for managing a queue in a storage area network of an asynchronous messaging and queuing system; and

means in the medium for controlling a message in said queue, wherein said messaging is selected from a group consisting of: <u>non-persistent</u> ~~transactional~~ and persistent.